

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-16 (canceled).

1           17.   (Currently pending) A fluid damping system, comprising:  
2           a tube member having a closed end and an open end;  
3           a hollow damper rod extending through the open end of the tube member;  
4           a damper piston valve coupled to the damper rod and movable within the tube  
5 member, wherein the damper piston valve comprises a one-way valve that permits fluid flow in  
6 an upward direction upon compression;  
7           a sealing member disposed to create a seal between the tube member and the  
8 damper rod near the top end of the tube member;  
9           a sleeve disposed over a top portion of the damper rod;  
10          wherein the damper rod includes at least an upper orifice and a lower orifice that  
11 are located between the sealing member and the piston valve to permit fluid flow past the piston  
12 valve by passing through the damper rod during extension of the damper rod out of the tube  
13 member, wherein the lower orifice is manually closable, and wherein the sleeve is configured to  
14 close the upper orifice upon extension such that further extension is limited if the lower orifice is  
15 closed.

1           18.   (Currently pending) A system as in claim 17, further comprising a lock  
2 tube disposed within the damper rod, and wherein the lock tube is manually rotatable externally  
3 of the tube member to close the lower orifice to limit the amount of extension.

1           19.   (Currently pending) A system as in claim 18, wherein the sleeve  
2 comprises an extension of the sealing member.

Claims 20-26 (canceled).